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Date March 29, 2004
To Mail Stop RCE
Attn: Examiner Nhon D. Nguyen
From Bradley M. Ganz
Re Serial No.09/686,572; Our file: US000183
Tel
Fax (703) 872-9306
Pages 13 + cover sheet

Dear Examiner Nguyen:

Attached for filing in connection with the above-referenced application are the following documents:

-
- Request for Continued Examination Transmittal;
 - Preliminary Amendment;
 - Petition for Extension of Time; and
 - Fee transmittal.

Sincerely,

Bradley M. Ganz

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Thomas James Dubil et al.

Serial No.: 09/686,572
Confirmation No.: 4775

Filed: October 10, 2000
Attorney Docket No.: US000183

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Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 29, 2004

Examiner: Nhon D. Nguyen

Art Unit: 2174

#11/C
4-2-04
[Signature]

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE
IS BEING SENT VIA FACSIMILE TO THE US PATENT
OFFICE TO EXAMINER NHON D. NGUYEN AT
FACSIMILE NUMBER (703) 872-9306 ON THE DATE
INDICATED BELOW.

[Signature]
Shannon Verboort
Date of Deposit: March 29, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Before any consideration on the merits of the above-identified application, please amend

it as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2
of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper

Page 1 – PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Serial No. 09/686,572